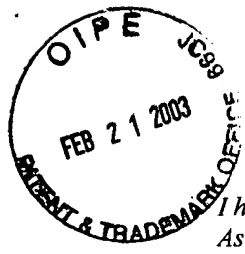


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service
As first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.
20231 on February 12, 2003.

Nancy C. McElroth
Signature

Applicant : Bin Zhao
Application No. : 09/891,795
Filed : 06/25/2001
Title : APPARATUS FOR CHANNEL INTERLEAVING IN COMMUNICATIONS

Grp./Div. : 2872
Examiner : Craig Curtis
Client Matter : CIR1.PAU.04

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

NEW ADDRESS: Myers, Dawes & Andras
19900 MacArthur Blvd.
Ste. 1150
Irvine, CA 92612

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 12, 2002, please amend the above identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-23 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 24-49 as follows:

24. (new) An interleaver comprising:
a birefringent element assembly comprising at least one spatial birefringent element, the birefringent element assembly providing two output components;

02/25/2003 CNGUYEN 00000106 09891795

01 FC:2202 18.00 OP

02/25/2003 CNGUYEN 00000106 09891795

02 FC:2252 205.00 OP

Suit
A/B
A/B